8th Grade Language Arts

Public Safety Academy, CREC

Miss Goodine

LGoodine@crec.org

Phone: (860) 253-0274

**Course Summary:** This course is designed to provide the student with an opportunity to continue developing skills related to critical thinking, vocabulary development, grammar, reading, writing, editing, revising, speaking, and collaboration. This course focuses on building the students’ literacy and writing skills. This course is written to incorporate the Common Core State Standards as well as 21st Century Skills, which will prepare students for college and career. This course will utilize AP Spring Board for many activities and assessments.

**Grading Rational (by Quarter):**

**Homework**…………………………………………………………….10%

**Classwork**……………….................................................................25%

(Includes “Do Now’s” and Exit Tickets, journals, and lesson activities)

**Quizzes**………………..…………………………………………….......20%

(Includes notebook quizzes, vocabulary and book quizzes)

**Tests/Projects**………………………………………………………...30%

(summatives within SpringBoard, writing drafts, performance assessments, vocabulary assessments, grammar assessments, and end of book tests)

**Independent Reading/Accelerated Reader**……………15% (Includes responses to independent reading, logs and accelerated reader goals)

**Units of Lesson and Approximate Duration of Units**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Unit 1 | *The Challenge of Heroism* | 9 weeks |
| Unit 2 | *The Challenge of Utopia* | 9 weeks |
| Unit 3 | *The Challenge to Make a Difference* | 9 weeks |
| Unit 4 | *The Challenge of Comedy* | 9 weeks |

**Expectations:**

Attendance

It is expected that all students attend class regularly and promptly. Public Safety Academy policy allots a specific amount of absences for the year. If you have any questions or concerns in regards to this policy please see the PSA Student/Parent Handbook.

Make-Up Work

Students are responsible for getting notes from a classmate when they are absent. All work assigned while a student is absent will be located in the “While You Were Out” folder. It is the responsibility of the student to get their work when they are absent. At the end of each quarter a zero will be given to all work that is incomplete, including all quizzes, tests, projects, and essays that have not been completed.

Homework

Homework will be assigned daily. Students have received a student agenda from PSA and it should be used daily.

Late Policy

Homework will be accepted the first day it is due for full credit. The next day it will be accepted for half credit. Homework handed in on the third day, will **not receive credit**.

Materials

It is expected that each student come to class prepared daily, both physically and mentally. You will need a one subject notebook, **OR** a section within a three ring binder designated just for Language Arts. Students must also have a single subject folder and a writing utensil (black or blue pen, or pencil). Students should also have a self-selected (independent) reading novel for SSR.

Behavioral

R-E-S-P-E-C-T!!!!!!! Complete RESPECT is expected in the classroom. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Listen to both your classmates and teacher(s) intently and politely. Do not speak out of turn. RESPECT given shall be received! All school rules will be adhered to without exception: no cell phones, no electronic devices, no personal grooming, etc. Disruptive students will be dealt with using the discipline policy found in PSA’s Student/Parent Handbook.